PATENT
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: MacDonald S. MORRIS *et al.*	)
	)
Application No.: 10/700,618	) Group Art Unit: 1634
	)
Filed: November 5, 2003	) Examiner: F. Wei Min Lu
	)
For: SELECTING TAG NUCLEIC ACIDS	) Confirmation No.: 4873

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with the duty of disclosure set for the in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98, copies of Non-Patent Literature Cite 1 and 2, cited in the attached Form PTO/SB/08B are not being provided because copies of the documents were previously submitted to the Office in prior Application Serial No. 10/226,355 to which the above-identified application claims priority.

A European Opposition proceeding has been initiated, wherein a granted Affymetrix European patent related to the above-identified application is being challenged. The European patent being opposed is EP 0799897 and the opponent is Innogenetics, NV. The opposed patent claims priority to US Application Serial No. 08/626,285 filed April 4, 1996. The above-identified application, 10/700,618 claims priority to 08/626,285. The opposition was filed on March 28, 2007 and the patentee has not yet filed a response. A copy of the

Notice of Opposition is included as Non-patent literature Cite No. 1 in Form SB/08B and was previously submitted in prior Application Serial No. 10/266,355.

The granted, opposed claims are generally directed to kits comprising tag arrays and methods of using the claimed tag arrays. The opposed claims are attached as Exhibit 1. The issues in the opposition are allegations of lack of novelty and inventive step, and allegations that the subject matter of the patent extends beyond the content of the application as filed. In the notice of opposition the opponent cites the following 8 references.

References cited:

US 5,451,505 (previously cited in IDS filed 11-5-03)
US 5,412,087 (previously cited in IDS filed 11-5-03)
WO 89/10977 (previously cited in IDS filed 11-5-03)
WO 90/11372 (previously cited in IDS filed 4-18-05)
WO 92/10588 (previously cited in IDS filed 4-5-07)
WO 93/25563 (previously cited in IDS filed 4-5-07)
WO 96/12014 (previously cited in IDS filed 4-5-07)
Extract from Wikipedia on the concept of De Bruijn sequence

As indicated above, all of the references cited in the notice of opposition have previously been cited in an IDS in the present application, except for the extract from Wikipedia on the concept of De Bruijn sequence.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed after the period specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), but before the mailing of a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113 and each item contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application less than three months prior to the

filing of this IDS. Accordingly, Applicants believe no fee is required. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the above-noted information and return an initialed copy of the attached Form PTO-1449 to the undersigned. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 01-0431.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: **June 4, 2007** By: /Sandra E. Wells/
Sandra E. Wells

Reg. No. 52,349

Customer No. 22886
Legal Department
Affymetrix, Inc.
3420 Central Expressway
Santa Clara, CA 95051
Tel: 408/731-5000
Fax: 408/731-5392

Exhibit: Opposed claims

Exhibit 1. Opposed Claims of EP 0 799 897

1. A kit comprising an array of 100 to 100,000 different sets of experimental oligonucleotide probes immobilised on a surface and a set of nucleic acid tags, wherein said experimental probes are selected to have sequences complementary to the sequences of the set of nucleic acid tags, said set of tags having uniform hybridisation characteristics such that all of the tags in the set may be detected by hybridisation to the array using a single set of hybridisation and wash conditions, and wherein each probe on the array does not cross-hybridise with tags complementary to other probes on the array.

2. A method for simultaneously detecting a plurality of test nucleic acids in a target sample by hybridisation to an array as defined in claim 1, wherein:-

(a) said array comprises sets of experimental probes which do not cross-hybridise to target nucleic acids under stringent conditions, each set comprising a homogenous population of oligonucleotide probes; and

(b) the test nucleic acids in the target sample which have been labelled with tag sequences which bind to the experimental probes in the array; and wherein sequences of the tags are chosen such that all of the tags may be detected by hybridisation to the array using a single set of hybridisation and wash conditions, and such that each tag in the set does not cross-hybridise with the probes complementary to other tags in the set.

3. The use of a kit as claimed in claim 1 for simultaneous detection of a plurality of test nucleic acids in a target, said test nucleic acids comprising said tags from the set of nucleic acid tags, by hybridisation of the tag nucleic acids to the array of oligonucleotide probes

said array comprising sets of experimental probes which do not cross-hybridise to target nucleic acids under stringent conditions, each set comprising a homogenous population of oligonucleotide probes.

4. A kit as claimed in claim 1 or a method or use as claimed in claims 2 or 3, wherein the array contains more than 100 different probe sets per cm^2, optionally wherein the array contains more than 1,000 probe sets per cm^2, preferably more than 10,000 per cm^2.

5. A kit, method or use as claimed in any preceding claim wherein each probe set on the array differs from every other probe set on the array by the arrangement of at least two nucleotides.

6. A kit, method or use as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the G+C ratio of the probes of the array is substantially identical and does not vary by more than 5%.

7. A method or use as claimed in any of claims 2 to 6 wherein the tags are from about 8 to 150 nucleotides, optionally between about 10 and 100 nucleotides, preferably between about 15 and 30 nucleotides.

8. A method or use as claimed in claim 7 wherein the tags are about 20 nucleotides.

9. A kit, method or use as claimed in any preceding claim wherein said array comprises a control probe.

10. A kit, method or use as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein said solid support is selected from the group consisting of slides, beads; polymeric chips, particles, strands, precipitates, gels, sheets, tubing, spheres, containers, capillaries, pads, slices, films and plates.